

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A therapeutic composition comprising a first agent that targets an interleukin-15 receptor (IL-15R) and a second agent that inhibits a costimulatory signal transmitted between a T cell and an antigen-presenting cell (APC), wherein the first agent comprises a substantially pure mutant IL-15 polypeptide comprising a mutation at position 149 or position 156 of SEQ ID NO:4, and wherein the second agent comprises a substantially pure polypeptide that binds a B7 molecule.

2.-3. (Canceled)

2 4. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide ~~has~~ comprises a mutation at position 149 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

3 5. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide ~~has~~ comprises a mutation at position 156 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

4 6. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide ~~also has~~ further comprises a mutation at position 149 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

5 7. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the mutation at position 156 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4 is a substitution of aspartate for glutamine.

6 8. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 6~~ claim 1, wherein the mutation at position 149 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4 is a substitution of aspartate for

glutamine.

7. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 6~~ ⁴ claim 8, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide has a substitution of aspartate for glutamine at positions 149 and 156 of ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

8. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 2~~ ¹ claim 1, wherein the first agent further comprises a moiety that leads to the elimination of IL-15R-bearing cells.

9. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 10~~ ⁸ claim 10, wherein the moiety that ~~lyses IL-15R-bearing cells~~ is an Fc region of an IgG or an IgM molecule.

12.-13. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 13~~ ¹ claim 1, wherein the B7 molecule is B7-1.

11. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 13~~ ¹ claim 1, wherein the B7 molecule is B7-2.

12. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 13~~ ¹ claim 1, wherein the polypeptide that binds B7 is a polypeptide comprising CTLA4/Ig.

13. (Currently amended) The therapeutic composition of ~~claim 13~~ ¹ claim 1, wherein the polypeptide that binds B7 comprises an anti-B7 antibody.

18.-41. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A method of making ~~[[a]] the~~ therapeutic composition of claim 1, ~~comprising a mutant IL-15 polypeptide that binds a subunit of an IL-15R and a polypeptide that binds a B7 molecule,~~ the method comprising

(a) purifying the mutant IL-15 polypeptide from ~~[[an]]~~ a first expression system, wherein

the first expression system comprises cells that comprise a nucleic acid molecule that encodes the mutant IL-15 polypeptide; and

(b) purifying the polypeptide that binds B7 from [[an]] a second expression system, wherein the second expression system comprises cells that comprise a nucleic acid molecule that encodes the polypeptide that binds B7; and

(c) combining the IL-15 polypeptide and the polypeptide that binds B7.

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43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide comprises a mutation at position 149 of SEQ ID NO:4.

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44. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide comprises a mutation at position 156 of SEQ ID NO:4.

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45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide further comprises a mutation at position 149 of SEQ ID NO:4.

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46. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the mutation at position 156 of SEQ ID NO:4 is a substitution of aspartate for glutamine.

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47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the mutation at position 149 of SEQ ID NO:4 is a substitution of aspartate for glutamine.

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48. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein the mutant IL-15 polypeptide has a substitution of aspartate for glutamine at positions 149 and 156 of SEQ ID NO:4.